Promotion of health tourism

3519. SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to promote health tourism so as to make India as a medical hub;

(b if so, the details including steps taken and criteria adopted, if any, to identify and accredit potential institutions and States as on today, category-wise;

(c) the details of institutions accredited for the above purpose, State-wise as on today;

(d) whether there is any proposal to identify the indigenous Indian System of Medicine for above purpose;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether any proposal has been received from State Governments for promoting health tourism; and

(g) if so, the details including action taken on the above report?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TROURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. the Ministry of Tourism along with Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has set up a Task Force with view to promoting India as a Health Tourism Destination across the world so as to gainfully utilize the health-care expertise and infrastructure available in the country. It has been decided to promote India aggressively as a Health Destination in close coordination and collaboration with the public sector tour operators.

(d) and (e) Ministry of Trourism, Government of India has published a brochure and CD-Rom titled "Body, Mind and Soul" giving information on ancient and proven healing techniques like Ayurveda, Yoga, Panchkarma, Rejuvenation, etc. in various States of India. This publicity material on the traditional and natural medicines is being distributed by India tourism Offices in India and overseas to promote Health Tourism.

(0 No, Sir.

(g) Does not arise..